



Member Report

ICRI GM 28 – NETHERLANDS

INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE (ICRI)

28th General Meeting

14-17 October 2013 – Belize City, Belize

Member's report on activities related to ICRI

Reporting period July 2012 - October 2013

1. **General Information** (note that this information will be posted on the ICRI website in your member page: <http://www.icriforum.org/about-icri/members-networks>)

Are you an ICRI Member?	Yes
Member type (Country / Organization):	Country
Focal Point 1:	
<i>Name:</i>	Paul Hoetjes
<i>Organization:</i>	National Office for the Caribbean Netherlands, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Directorate of Nature and Biodiversity
<i>Email:</i>	paul.hoetjes@rijksdienstcn.com
Focal point 2:	
<i>Name:</i>	Hayo Haanstra
<i>Organization:</i>	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Directorate of Nature and Biodiversity
<i>Email:</i>	h.j.haanstra@minez.nl
Last meeting attended:	21st GM, Washington D.C., 2008
Related website(s)	

2. **Updates on your activities** (new initiatives/programs/projects of your government /organization which will be of interest to the ICRI Members). Examples include MPA declarations, World Heritage sites status, economic valuation of reefs, policy changes in relation to coral reefs etc.

- Saba Bank:
 - National Park designation of Saba Bank, December 2010, with Saba Bank Special Marine Area Management Plan: <http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/saba-bank-special-marine-area-management-plan-2008>
 - EBSA Status under the CBD, October 2012
 - PSSA (Particularly Sensitive Sea Area) designation of Saba Bank by IMO, June 2013.
 - Research program on the coral reef health of the of Saba Bank
- SPAW (Specially Protected Area and Wildlife) Protocol protected area designation for Bonaire National Marine Park and Saba Bank National Park, October 2012.
- Application for WHS nomination for Bonaire National Marine Park started
- Nature Policy Plan Caribbean Netherlands, 2013-2017.
- Joint management of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Dutch Caribbean by way of a Memorandum of Agreement signed by Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba, Curaçao, and The Netherlands, establishing a Committee for the Management of Biodiversity and Fisheries (CMBF), based on a Management Plan for the Natural Resources of the EEZ for the Dutch Caribbean (<http://www.dcbd.nl/document/management-plan-natural-resources-eez-dutch-caribbean>).
- Socio-economic valuation of biodiversity (TEEB) studies of Bonaire, Saba, and St. Eustatius. Commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, consultant WKICS, together with the Institute for environmental Studies (IVM) of the VU University Amsterdam, has performed and is performing several socio-economic valuation studies of the Dutch

Caribbean islands, as well as elsewhere in the Caribbean region, commissioned by the JNCC and the Cayman Islands Department of Environment. Next to valuations, applications are developed that aid policymakers to incorporate the value of ecosystems in the decision making process. For results of the project on Bonaire please visit:

<http://www.ivm.vu.nl/en/projects/Projects/economics/Bonaire/index.asp>

- Lionfish response plans for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba
- Quantitative and qualitative mapping of coral reef and other benthic habitats of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba
- Conch and lobster stock assessments for St. Eustatius and Saba Bank, and fisheries independent benthic fish stock assessments using 3D Baited Remote Underwater Video (BRUV) on Saba, Saba Bank and St. Eustatius

3. Contribution to the ICRI GM

Your responses to the following questions will assist the Secretariat in assessing contributions towards the major themes of the current ICRI action plan and objectives of the general meeting.

a. Community-based monitoring

Are you engaged in, or support community-based monitoring in your marine areas? If so, think about what works and what doesn't with it to be prepared for workshop discussions on this topic. The discussions will revolve around:

- The benefit of community-based monitoring for management and reporting
- Way forward and how countries could support each other through a network of persons involved in monitoring and an online database.

Currently the Ministry of Economic Affairs, together with the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) is working on implementation of a SMART (Special Monitoring Assistance Response Team) bringing together expert coral reef monitoring volunteers from the various islands to assist the marine parks on all the Dutch Caribbean islands with yearly reef monitoring, using a slightly modified Reef Check protocol.

b. Co-management

Do you have co-management arrangements in place for your marine reserves? If so, start thinking about what they are, and what works for you in preparation for workshop and field trip discussions on this topic. There will be some interactive exercises to help guide your thinking and possible way forward.

All marine parks in the Dutch Caribbean are managed by NGO's mandated by the respective island governments, that combine the dive sector, governmental, and conservation interests in their boards

4. Is there any other topic you would like to raise during the meeting?

YES NO

If yes, please indicate which topic and the reason why you would like to raise it:

A presentation on the socio-economic valuation of nature on several of the Dutch Caribbean islands. Duration: preferably 1-1.5 hour, but if less time is available the presentation can be shortened.

The Dutch ministry of Economic Affairs, together with WKICS and the Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) of the VU University Amsterdam, would like to further contribute to ICRI by giving a presentation within the framework of the ad hoc committee on economic

valuation. We would like to share our results, methodologies and our experience on the effects of valuation studies.

Our studies are not merely valuations of ecosystems, but also incorporate applications that are intended to aid stakeholders and policymakers in decision-making processes. We make use of scenario analysis, extended cost-benefit analysis and value maps which function as tools for policymaking and effective communication of our results. Special attention will go to the impact of the studies, which were used in several occasions to make important decisions regarding nature management in the Dutch Caribbean.

During the presentation, to be given by mr. Stijn Schep of WKICS, the scientific theory & practical issues that are part of the socio-economic valuation studies of nature (especially coral reefs) will be discussed. Valuation studies in the Dutch Caribbean region will be presented as case studies to show how theory is applied in practice. The presentation would

The goal of this presentation is to raise interest for a future more extensive training on how to execute socio-economic valuations of nature and what kind of impact it could have on present issues. During such a training we plan to make use of a toolkit that provides a guideline to conduct valuation studies and incorporate natural values more effectively in policy design.

5. Please list relevant publications, reports you have been released since the last meeting.

Title (incl. author and date)	Type of publication (Paper, report etc.)
Cado van der Lely JA, Van Beukering P, Muresan L, Zambrano Cortes D, Wolfs E, Schep S (2013) ‘The total economic value of nature on Bonaire. Exploring the future with an ecological-economic simulation model’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Lacle F, Wolfs E, Van Beukering P, Brander L (2012), ‘Recreational and cultural value of Bonaire’s nature to its inhabitants’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Schep S, Brander L, Van Beukering P, Wolfs E (2012), ‘The touristic value of nature on Bonaire. A multiple valuation techniques approach’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Schep S, Johnson AE, Van Beukering P, Wolfs E (2012), ‘The fishery value of coral reefs in Bonaire. Applying various valuation techniques’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Van Beukering P, Botzen W, Wolfs E (2012), ‘The non-use value of nature on the Netherlands and the Caribbean Netherlands. Applying and comparing contingent valuation and choice modeling approaches’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Van Beukering P, Wolfs E (2012), ‘Essays on economic values of nature of Bonaire. A desk study’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Van Beukering P, Van Zanten B (2012) ‘Coastal protection services of coral reefs in Bonaire. Economic values and spatial maps’, Institute for Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Report
Note: Full reports of the 6 studies listed above can all be downloaded from	

http://www.ivm.vu.nl/en/projects/Projects/economics/Bonaire/index.asp	
Saba Bank Special Marine Area Management Plan http://www.dcbd.nl/document/management-plan-natural-resources-eez-dutch-caribbean	Report
PLOS ONE Special Collection: Biodiversity of Saba Bank http://www.ploscollections.org/article/browse/issue/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fissue.pcol.v02.i08	Paper
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paul C. Hoetjes, Kent E. Carpenter. Saving Saba Bank: Policy Implications of Biodiversity Studies. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0010769 - Wes Toller, Adolphe O. Debrot, Mark J. A. Vermeij, Paul C. Hoetjes. Reef Fishes of Saba Bank, Netherlands Antilles: Assemblage Structure across a Gradient of Habitat Types. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0009207 - Mark M. Littler, Diane S. Littler, Barrett L. Brooks. Marine Macroalgal Diversity Assessment of Saba Bank, Netherlands Antilles. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0010677 - Jeffrey T. Williams, Kent E. Carpenter, James L. Van Tassell, Paul Hoetjes, Wes Toller, Peter Etnoyer, Michael Smith. Biodiversity Assessment of the Fishes of Saba Bank Atoll, Netherlands Antilles. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0010676 - Robert W. Thacker, M. Cristina Díaz, Nicole J. de Voogd, Rob W. M. van Soest, Christopher J. Freeman, Andrew S. Mobley, Jessica LaPietra, Kevin Cope, Sheila McKenna. Preliminary Assessment of Sponge Biodiversity on Saba Bank, Netherlands Antilles. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0009622 - Sheila A. McKenna, Peter Etnoyer. Rapid Assessment of Stony Coral Richness and Condition on Saba Bank, Netherlands Antilles. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0010749 - Peter J. Etnoyer, Herman H. Wirshing, Juan A. Sánchez. Rapid Assessment of Octocoral Diversity and Habitat on Saba Bank, Netherlands Antilles. PLOS ONE: published 21 May 2010 info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0010668 	
Beek, Ingrid van (2012). Lobster trap detection at the Saba Bank. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/lobster-trap-detection-saba-bank	Report
Debrot, A.O. Hylkema, A. Vogelaar, W. Meesters, H.W.G. Engel, M.S. León, R. de Prud'homme van Reine, W.F. Nagelkerken, I. (2012). Baseline surveys of Lac Bay benthic and fish communities, Bonaire. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/baseline-surveys-lac-bay-benthic-and-fish-communities-bonaire	Report
Eckrich, C.E. Peachey, R.B.J. Engel, M.S. (2010). Crustose, calcareous algal bloom (Ramicrusta sp.) overgrowing scleractinian corals, gorgonians, a hydrocoral, sponges, and other algae in Lac Bay, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/crustose-calcareous-algal-bloom-ramicrusta-sp-overgrowing-scleractinian-corals-gorgonians	Paper
IUCN (2011). Coral Reef Resilience Assessment of the Bonaire National Marine Park, Netherlands Antilles. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 51pp. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/coral-reef-resilience-assessment-bonaire-national-marine-park-netherlands-antilles	Report
Steneck, Robert S. and Suzanne N. Arnold (2009). Status and Trends of Bonaire's Coral Reefs, 2009 & Need for Action. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/status-and-trends-bonaire-coral-reefs-need-action	Report
Vermeij, Mark (2011). Inventory of Bonaire's Coral Reefs - with particular attention to previously undescribed phenomena illustrating the ongoing decline of Bonaire's reefs. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/inventory-bonaire-coral-reefs-particular-attention-previously-undescribed-phenomena	Report
Meesters, Erik H.W.G. (2010) Saba Bank; health status - Cruise report. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/saba-bank-health-status-2010-cruise-report	Report
Beek, I.J.M. van Meesters, H.W.G. (2013) Saba Bank research expedition 2011 – Progress Report. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/saba-bank-research-expedition-2011-%E2%80%93-progress-report	Report
Slijkerman, D.M.E. Smith, S.R. Koelemij, E. Rippen, A. (2012) Water quality monitoring Bonaire. Identification of indicators, methods and locations. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/water-quality-monitoring-bonaire-identification-indicators-methods-and-locations	Report
Slijkerman, D.M.E. León, R. de Vries, P. de Koelemij, E. (2012) Water quality monitoring Bonaire. Results monitoring November 2011 and recommendations for future research. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/water-quality-monitoring-bonaire-results-monitoring-	Report

november-2011-and-recommendations	
Meer, J. van der Ruardij, P. Groot, A. de Gerla, D. Meesters, H.W.G. Brinkman, B. Duyl, F.C. van Vries, P. de (2013) Towards a predictive model supporting coral reef management of Bonaire's coral reef. Progress report 2012. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/towards-predictive-model-supporting-coral-reef-management-bonaire%E2%80%99s-coral-reef-progress	Report
McClellan, K. (2009) Evaluating the Effectiveness of Marine No-Take Reserves in St. Eustatius, Netherlands Antilles. http://www.dcbd.nl/?q=document/evaluating-effectiveness-marine-no-take-reserves-st-eustatius-netherlands-antilles	Report

6. Please indicate upcoming coral reef-related meetings you or your organisation will attend

2nd Global Conference on Land - Ocean Connections (GLOC-2) October 2- 4 2013, Montego Bay, Jamaica

17th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SBSTTA-17), 14-18 October 2013 Montreal, Canada

2nd Global Marine World Heritage Site Managers Conference, 17-20 October 2013, Corsica, France

International Marine Protected Areas Congress, 21-27 October, Marseille, France

9th Pacific Island Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, 2-6 December, Suva, Fiji

Other:

3rd International Congress of Ecosystems Services in the Neotropics, 7-11 October, Medellin, Colombia. See for more information: <http://www.medellin.unal.edu.co/secosistemas>

66th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Conference, 4 - 8 November 2013, Corpus Christi, Texas, USA.